

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 08818 131434Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06
PRS-01 DHA-02 IO-13 (ISO) W
-----039429 131814Z /53

R 131250Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9702
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 8818

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, MARR, KE, ET
SUBJECT: KENYA-ETHIOPIA BILATERAL MEETINGS REPORTEDLY SET FOR AUGUST

REF: LIBREVILLE 1773 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL REPORTED PLANS OF ETHIOPIAN DEFECTOR TAYE
RETA TO TRAVEL TO NAIROBI. TAYE CALLED ON EMBOFF JULY 13
FOR PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION, AND WE EXPECT TO BE IN
TOUCH WITH HIM FURTHER ABOUT HIS PLANS AFTER HE HAS
SEEN KENYAN FRIENDS. HE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING
INFORMATION ABOUT KENYAN-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS.

2. MENGISTU'S ASCENDANCY AND HIS REPORTED REMARK THAT
ETHIOPIA WAS SURROUNDED BY REACTIONARIES WITH EXCEPTION
OF SOUTH YEMEN WAS SYMPTOMATIC OF EPMG DISDAIN FOR KENYA,
AND THIS HAS NOT BEEN LOST ON KENYAN OFFICIALS. (WE ALSO
RECALL FOREIGN MINISTER WAIYAKI SPEAKING PRIVATELY ABOUT
KILLINGS IN ETHIOPIA, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS BEING
NO BETTER THAN AMIN'S REGIME IN UGANDA). THUS THERE
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HAS BEEN DISTINCT CHILL ON KENYAN-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS,
ALTHOUGH BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE ATTEMPTED TO MAINTAIN AIR
OF NORMALCY. IN PAST, KENYA AND ETHIOPIA HAVE REGULARLY
HELD CONSULTATIVE MEEINGS IN THREE FORMATS--JOINT
BORDER COMMISSION, JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMISSION AND
JOINT DEFENSE COMMISSION. ALTHOUGH THESE BODIES HAVE
NOT MET SINCE 1976, BOTH COUNTRIES APPRENTLY CONCLUDED

IN WAKE OF SOMALIA-KENYA BORDER INCIDENT THAT IT WOULD
BE WISE TO REVIVE THEM. ACCORDING TO TAYE, WAIYAKI AND
MENGISTU AGREED IN LIBREVILLE TO AIM FOR MEETINGS OF
ALL THREE IN AUGUST.

3. COMMENT: WHETHER MEETINGS WILL ACTUALLY TAKE PLACE
DEPENDS ON SCHEDULING AS WELL AS NEW POLITICAL AND
MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HORN. AT ANY RATE,
INTENTIONS OF TWO COUNTRIES APPEAR TO BE IN FAVOR OF
CLOSER RELATIONS DESPITE IDEOLOGICAL DISPARITY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PLANNING MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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